

HELP! MY MATE IS UNSAVED!

1 Cor 7:12-16

Three groups of people in church

1. Unmarried and widows (8-9)
2. Christian Couples (10-11)
3. Mixed Couples (12-16) One saved; other not.

1 Corinthians 7:12 *To the rest speak I:* mixed couples

Speak I, not the Lord: No other specific teachings in Word about this.

Pleased: consent, assent, allow, think well of, in common

Put her away: repudiate, send, forsake, lay aside, omit, remit, leave her or divorce her, send her away.

The marriage vow still sacred

It is still inviolable.

1 Corinthians 7:13 ... *if he be pleased to dwell with her:* If he consents, thinks well of the idea.

Christian mate cannot prevent spouse from leaving.

let her not leave him. Don't leave unbelieving husband.

Leave: repudiate, forsake, lay aside, ...

Not same Grk word as in v.10

1 Peter 3:1-4

1 Corinthians 7:14 *Sanctified:* set apart, withdrawn from heathen contamination.

1. To cleanse
2. To render morally pure
3. To consecrate, to hallow.

Not mean – unsaved mate is declared saved because you are saved.

Unsaved mate--recipient of spiritual benefits and advantages

True in nation. Gen 15:18; Gen 18:23-33; I Kings 15:4; Proverbs 11:10-11

In supernatural way, unsaved spouse receives benefits and blessings because of saved spouse.

Unclean: impure

3 ways:

1. Unclean spirits
2. Ceremonially unclean
3. Morally.

but now are they holy. Set apart, under special protection from God.

Not mean children saved if one of parents is saved.

4 styles of parenting:

1. Neglectful
2. Authoritarian
3. Permissive
4. Authoritative

Observations from 35 years of working with teenagers:

1. Both parents unsaved – high probability that turn out right for God.
2. One of two parents is saved – high probability
3. Both saved and lukewarm – low probability.
4. Both saved and sincerely trying to please God – very high probability.

1 Corinthians 7:15 *Depart:* leave, to give space, to be separated from, desert, leads to divorce.

Barnes: refers to formal and legal separation before magistrate. Not same as divorce but most often results in divorce.

If you unbelieving spouse departs...release him...free him...don't try to manipulate him to stay

Bondage: enslave, made a servant, be morally bound.

2 Pet 2:19; Tit 2:3; 1 Cor 9:19; Romans 6:22

This type of bondage--matter of will

Another word for bondage in Greek: *Dew* – to knit, tie, wind, be in bonds; to be tied so not able to get out. No choice in matter.

Acts 12:6; 20:22; 21:11; Rom 7:2; 1 Cor 7:39,27

1 Corinthians 7:15 ...*but God hath called us to peace.*

God's will -- relationship is peaceful (unruffled temperament, quietness of spirit)

1 Corinthians 7:16 Who knows, if live in peace with unsaved mate, maybe have good influence by life and mate will be saved.

SO WHAT?

vv.12-16 Mixed couples:

Christian men: If your unsaved wife is content to stay with you don't divorce her....leave her...lay her aside.

Christian women: If your unsaved husband is content to stay with you, don't desert him, divorce him.

v.15 If your unsaved mate deserts you, let him go.

God's will is peace and harmony in home.

16. Maybe unsaved mate will get saved